IN THE CLAIMS:

The text of all pending claims, (including withdrawn claims) is set forth below. Cancelled and not entered claims are indicated with claim number and status only. The claims as listed below show added text with underlining and deleted text with ~~strikethrough~~. The status of each claim is indicated with one of (original), (currently amended), (cancelled), (withdrawn), (new), (previously presented), or (not entered).

1. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) An optical disc drive comprising:

a deck having a protrusion, a spindle motor that rotates an optical disc being mounted on the protrusion, and an optical pickup sliding along a radial direction of the optical disc drive also being mounted on the protrusion, the spindle motor being mounted directly on the deck without a space therebetween;

a lower case, that the deck slides into and out of, the lower case has a penetration having a substantially same shape as the protrusion such that a sliding limit of the protrusion corresponds to an edge of the penetration; and

a cover that covers the penetration,

wherein the penetration comprises a placing part that is prepared at the edge of the penetration and has a lower surface recessed by a thickness of the lower case from the lower surface of the lower case.

2. (ORIGINAL) The optical disc drive of claim 1, wherein the cover covers the penetration so that a lower surface of the cover does not protrude to a lower surface of the lower case.

3. (ORIGINAL) The optical disc drive of claim 2, wherein the cover is thinner than the lower case.

4. (CANCELLED)

5. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The optical disc drive of claim [[4]]1, wherein the cover is adhered onto the placing part.

6. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The optical disc drive of claim [[4]]1, wherein the

cover is fixed onto the placing part by spot welding.

7. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) ~~The optical disc drive of claim 1, further comprising:~~An optical disc drive comprising:

a deck having a protrusion, a spindle motor that rotates an optical disc being mounted on the protrusion, and an optical pickup sliding along a radial direction of the optical disc drive also being mounted on the protrusion, the spindle motor being mounted directly on the deck without a space therebetween;

a lower case, that the deck slides into and out of, the lower case having a penetration having a substantially same shape as the protrusion such that a sliding limit of the protrusion corresponds to an edge of the penetration;

a cover that covers the penetration;

a flexible printed circuit that curves as the deck slides into and out of the lower case; and

dynamically connects electrical parts including the optical pickup installed on the deck to a main control board installed in the lower case, wherein a portion of the flexible printed circuit is fixed to the cover.

8. (ORIGINAL) The optical disc drive of claim 7, wherein the flexible printed circuit is U-shaped, and comprises a first connecting part connected to the deck and a second connecting part, connected to the main control board, which is fixed to the cover.

9. (ORIGINAL) The optical disc drive of claim 1, wherein the optical pickup serves to reproduce data from a CD-ROM and records data on and reproduces data from a CD-RW.

10. (ORIGINAL) The optical disc drive of claim 1, wherein the optical disc drive serves to reproduce data from a CD-ROM, record data on and reproduce data from a CD-R, and reproduce data from a DVD.

11. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) An optical disc drive, comprising:

a lower case, having an upper and a lower surface, including a main control board controlling the operation of the optical dis~~k~~c drive, and a penetration;

a deck which slides in and out of the lower case occupying a volume of protruding space, a spindle motor and an optical pickup being mounted on the protruding space, the spindle motor being mounted directly on the deck without a space therebetween and a sliding limit of the

protruding space corresponding to an edge of the penetration; ~~and~~

a cover covering the penetration, wherein the protruding space has a same shape as the penetration; and

a placing part, having an upper and a lower surface, along an edge of the penetration, transversely extending from the edge of the protrusion.

12. (ORIGINAL) The optical disc drive according to claim 11, wherein the cover comprises a plate that is thinner than the lower case.

13. (ORIGINAL) The optical disc drive according to claim 11, wherein the lower surface of the cover does not extend lower than a lower surface of the lower case.

14. (CANCELLED)

15. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The optical disc drive according to claim ~~14~~11, wherein the upper surface of the placing part is level with the upper surface of the lower case.

16. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The optical disc drive according to claim ~~14~~11, wherein the upper surface of the placing part is lower than the upper surface of the lower case.

17. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The optical disc drive according to claim 11~~14~~, wherein the lower surface of the placing part is lower than the upper surface of the lower case by a thickness of the cover.

18. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The optical disc drive according to claim 11~~14~~, wherein the lower surface of the placing part is formed higher than the lower case by the thickness of an adhesive when the cover is adhered onto the placing part.

19. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The optical disc drive according to claim 11~~14~~, wherein the cover is fixed onto the placing part by spot welding.

20. (ORIGINAL) The optical disc drive according to claim 11, further comprising:

a flexible printed circuit made of a material that flexibly folds as the deck slides into and out of the lower case; and

dynamically connects electrical parts on the deck to the main control board, wherein a portion of the flexible printed circuit is fixed to the cover.

21. (ORIGINAL) The optical disc drive according to claim 20, wherein the flexible printed circuit is U-shaped, and comprises:

a first connecting part, formed at an end of the flexible printed circuit, connected to the deck; and

a second connecting part, formed at the other end of the flexible printed circuit, connected to a connector on the main control board.

22. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The optical disc drive according to claim 21, wherein the first connecting part comprises connections to the spindle motor, ~~the~~ a driving motor to move the optical pickup, and the optical pickup.

23. (ORIGINAL) The optical disc drive according to claim 21, wherein an adhesive fixes the flexible printed circuit to the cover at a portion of the flexible printed circuit comprising the portion away from the second connecting part and extending towards a U-shaped section.

24. (ORIGINAL) The optical disc drive according to claim 11, wherein the optical pickup reproduces data from a CD-ROM and records data on and reproduces data from a CD-RW.

25. (ORIGINAL) The optical disc drive according to claim 11, wherein the optical disc drive reproduces data from a CD-ROM, records data on and reproduces data from a CD-R, and reproduces data from a DVD.

26. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) An optical disc drive, comprising:

a lower case, having an upper and a lower surface, including a main control board controlling the operation of the optical disk~~c~~ drive, and a penetration;

a deck which slides in and out of the lower case comprising a protrusion occupying a volume of protruding space, a spindle motor and an optical pickup being directly mounted on the protrusion without space between the spindle motor and the deck, a sliding limit of the protrusion corresponding to an edge of the penetration; and

a cover covering the penetration, wherein the protruding space has a substantially same

shape as the penetration formed by omitting and/or removing a portion of the lower case, the protruding space having a substantially similar shape as the penetration such that two and/or three dimensions of the protruding space fit within a plane and/or volume that has been removed which forms the penetration, such that if the penetration was not formed in the lower case, the protrusion would occupy at least a portion of the two dimensional and/or three dimensional protruding space when the deck resides within the optical disc drive.